

REMARKS

By this Amendment, Applicant has amended claims 1, 2, 7, 9, 11-15, 17-20, and 22. The amendments to claims 1, 2, 7, 9, 11-15, 17-20, and 22 are supported in the originally filed application, for example, in the as-filed specification at page 28, line 8 to page 29, line 26.

Applicant respectfully requests the withdrawal of the 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) rejection of claim 22 over U.S. Patent No. 5,552,995 to Sebastian ("Sebastian") and the 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) rejection of claims 1, 2, and 5-21 over Sebastian in view of U.S. Patent No. 4,858,146 to Shebini ("Shebini").

Sebastian and Shebini do not disclose or suggest, e.g., "a control section configured to . . . determine, using [a] corresponding surface group, errors in [a] combined shape model arising from [a] second reference surface; . . . wherein the errors determined using the corresponding surface group include at least one of a change of a number of configuring surfaces, a change in direction or quantity of border lines, reversal of a direction of a surface, and folding of a surface," as recited in independent claim 1. Independent claims 2, 7, 9, 11-15, 17-20, and 22 contain similar recitations.

In contrast, and as noted in the Office Action at page 5, the system disclosed in Sebastian detects whether parameters of a part, e.g., a thickness of a boss, correspond with a manufacturer's recommendation. Sebastian does not disclose or suggest, e.g., "determin[ing], using [a] corresponding surface group, errors in [a] combined shape model arising from [a] second reference surface; . . . wherein the errors determined using the corresponding surface group include at least one of a change of a number of configuring surfaces, a change in direction or quantity of border lines, reversal of a

direction of a surface, and folding of a surface,” as recited in independent claim 1, and similarly recited in independent claims 2, 7, 9, 11-15, 17-20, and 22. Shebini does not remedy the deficiencies of Sebastian.

For at least these reasons, Applicant respectfully submits that the claim rejections should be withdrawn and that claims 1, 2, and 5-22 should be allowed.

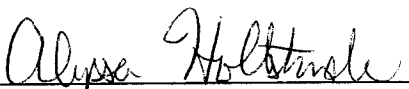
In view of the foregoing remarks, Applicant submits that all of the pending claims are allowable over the references cited against this application. Applicant therefore requests the Examiner's reconsideration of the application, and the timely allowance of the pending claims.

Please grant any extensions of time required to enter this response and charge any additional required fees to Deposit Account 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

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